GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:85
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2004
SECURITY THREAT DUE TO IMPORTED SCRAP
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed in the country due to explosion of imported scrap, State-wise;

(b) the compensation paid to the victims;

(c) whether the Government has inquired into the whole case of live ammunition in the form of scrap coming into the country in view of its threat to national security; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and remedial steps taken/being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.85 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH DECEMBER , 2004 REGARDING "SECURITY THREAT DUE TO IMPORTED SCRAP"

(a): 10 persons were killed and 8 injured in an explosion on 30.9.2004 inside the factory premises of M/s Bhushan Steel and Strips Ltd., Ghaziabad (UP) during the course of unloading of imported iron Scrap. Besides, two persons were killed and three others injured in an explosion in iron scrap in the Indo Power Service Rolling Factory at Navagaon (Bhavnagar), Gujarat on 20.10.2004.

(b): The Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that M/s. Bhushan Steel and Strips Ltd., Ghaziabad (UP) has paid Rs one lakh each to the families of the persons killed and Rs.25,000 each to the persons injured in the incident. The Government of Gujarat has informed that they have not paid any compensation to the families of the victims of the incident of 20.10.2004.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): The Central Government has taken various remedial measures in this regard which inter-alia include advisories issued to all States/UTs to (a) step up police vigilance and carry out the necessary screening of the scrap lying in the steel and iron factories to segregate shells/rockets if any, from the scrap, (b) ensure that rockets, mortars and shells are not dumped by factory owners in public places like road and river beds and (c) to render assistance to the customs authorities as and when solicited by them to carry out physical inspection of the scrap lying at the premises of the steel and iron factories. Besides, Ministry of Defence, NSG, BSF and ITBP were also requested to issue instructions to all their field formations to render assistance, to the extent possible, to the State/UT Governments in detection and disposal of the recovered shells/rockets. The Government has also laid down certain new guidelines and procedures for import of metallic scrap and waste.